

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's thorough examination of the present application. Claims 87-104 are pending in the applications. Claims 87, 88, 90, 95, 98, 99 and 101 are currently amended and are placed in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance and thus respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and allow Claims 1-104 in view of the foregoing remarks.

Independent claims 87, 95 and 98 were amended to include "the communication network comprising a plurality of domains and wherein a first service endpoint is on a separate domain from a second service endpoint, and wherein the first and second service endpoints communicate via at least one media switch...." Applicant's submit that this amendment was made without adding new matter and is supported throughout the specification, and in particular FIG. 2C-2D.

Claim 87 was also amended to include "wherein resources for establishing the multimedia conference are distributed among the plurality of service endpoints. ..." Applicant's submit that this amendment was made without adding new matter and is supported throughout the specification, and in particular pg. 9, paragraph 033-039.

Claim 88 was amended to include "and each service is provided by a separate service endpoint. ..." Applicant's submit that this amendment was made without adding new matter and is supported throughout the specification, and in particular FIGS. 4A and 4B.

Claim 90 was amended to include "a source endpoint to a destination endpoint directly in the domain of the service endpoint and outside of the domain. ..." Applicant's submit that this amendment was made without adding new matter and is supported throughout the specification, and in particular FIGS. 3, 4A and 4B.

35 USC §112 Claim Rejections

Claims 87, 95, 98, 99 and 101 have been amended to remove language such as “can”, “may”, “can be” and “capable of” from the claims. Therefore, Applicant submits that the Examiner’s §112 rejections have been address and claims 87, 95, 98, 99 and 101 are in condition for allowance, and accordingly request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the §112 rejection.

35 USC §102 Claim Rejections

Claims 87-104 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,237,025 to Ludwig et al. (“*Ludwig*”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons stated below.

Ludwig does not teach distributing resources among service endpoints across a plurality of domains.

Ludwig discloses a multimedia collaborative system that integrates real-time and asynchronous networks. *See Ludwig* at Abstract. The system comprises “a plurality of ‘ultimedia local area networks’ (MLANs) 10” couple to “a plurality of [collaborative multimedia workstation] CMS systems” for sharing audio and video between workstations. *See Ludwig*, 5:66- 6:2. However, although Ludwig describes a plurality of services available to the workstations, Ludwig does not describe multiple service endpoints across a plurality of domains being utilized to help establish a collaboration session. The Examiner points to col. 8, lines 43-58 as describing “a plurality of services to be used in a multimedia conference session, wherein each of the plurality of services is hosted by and independently executable through at least one service endpoint in a communication network.” *See Office Action* dated June 14, 2007, pg. 3. The Examiner further equates the MLAN server 60 of Figure 3 as to a service endpoint. *See Id.* at pg. 4.

Applicant respectfully submits that the MLAN server 60 of *Ludwig* is an apparatus that provides networking among CMW users, and not services. The MLAN “can be implemented in

the preferred embodiment using conventional technology, such as typical Data LAN hubs 25 and A/V Switching Circuitry 30 ...linked to the CMWs 12..." See *Ludwig*, 7:24-28." Thus, Applicant submits that the MLAN server is more similar to the Media Switch disclosed in the present application. Thus, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection in that Ludwig does not disclose each and every limitation in the independent claims.

However, in order to further prosecution, independent claims 87, 95 and 98 where amended to include "the communication network comprising a plurality of domains and wherein a first service endpoint is on a separate domain from a second service endpoint, and wherein the first and second service endpoints communicate via at least one media switch..." *Ludwig* does not disclose services being distributed among a plurality of service endpoints that are on separate domains communicating via at least one media switch. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner reconsider his rejection in light of this amendment and accordingly withdraw the rejection.

Claim 87 was also amended to include "wherein resources for establishing the multimedia conference are distributed among the plurality of service endpoint. . ." As described above, *Ludwig* does not disclose distributing conference resources among a plurality of service endpoints. Instead, *Ludwig* discloses each MLAN server to perform all the conference switching services for a particular group of workstations. Similarly, claim 88 was amended to include "and each service is provided one of the independent service endpoints. . .", and claim 90 was amended to include "a source endpoint to a destination endpoint directly in the domain of the service endpoint and outside of the domain. . ." *Ludwig* does not disclose either of these elements. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner reconsider his rejections in light of this amendment and accordingly withdraw the rejection.

CONCLUSION

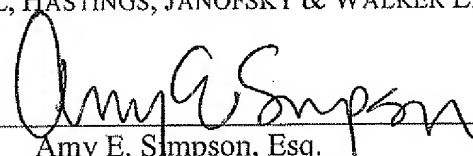
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. In the event that a variance exists between the amount tendered and that required by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to enter and consider this Amendment, or to prevent abandonment of the present application, please charge or credit such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2613, Order No. 45098.00010.UTL1.P1068.

Respectfully submitted,

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